CALHOUN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Tobacco Regulation Goes Smoothly!
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The Calhoun County Clean Indoor Air Regulation is over two months old, and already Calhoun County workers are experiencing the benefits of smoke-free indoor air. The Calhoun County Public Health Department (CCPHD) and members of the Calhoun County Cancer Control Coalition (5Cs) thank all of you for your cooperation through regulation implementation.

Approximately 4,570 Tobacco Regulation packets were mailed in late November – early December 2007. Tobacco Regulation packets contained several items including a regulation summary, sample policies, checklists, frequently asked questions, and smoking cessation resources. Free window clings are still available for pick up at the Toeller Building or via mail by contacting Kristin Roux.

Since September 2007, CCPHD received over 200 inquiries. Many inquiries received requested regulation clarification and more smoke-free window clings. Nearly 6,000 smoke-free window clings have been distributed so far. Information regarding tobacco cessation is also available from the Health Department, including Quit Kits, toll-free (800) hotline numbers, and web sites. For more information regarding tobacco cessation, please visit the Calhoun County Public Health Department web site at www.calhouncountymi.gov/publichealth.

Numerous studies have shown that exposure to secondhand smoke is harmful to the health of non-smokers, increasing the risks of cancer, lung disease, and heart disease. The regulation

eliminates smoking in all public and private worksites and public places (excluding bars, restaurants, and tobacco specialty stores).

Calhoun County needs smoke-free indoor air for the health of its citizens and to reduce exposure to the harmful effects of secondhand smoke. Secondhand smoke is the second leading cause of preventable death in Michigan. Calhoun County's smoke-free worksite regulation will create a safer, healthier workplace and may decrease direct health care and insurance costs for employers.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Kristin Roux [(269) 969-6393 or kroux@calhouncountymi.gov)] or visit the web site at www.calhouncancer.org/cleanair.php.

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